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UCR'S BALBIN ACCUSES GOVERNMENT OF LIVING IN PAST

PY072340 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1914 GMT 5 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 5 Aug (NA)--Ricardo Balbin, president of the Radical Civic Union [UCR] has said to reporters that "the government does not talk" about the opening of dialog with the various sectors and asserted that the members of the government team "amuse themselves by talking of the past."

He added: "The economy minister, for example, is beginning to contradict himself; every time he has to explain something, he says 'because in 1976,' but we are in 1979. We do not understand him well, but we can also say that Martinez de Hoz' economic plan already belongs to the past."

The UCR leader then added that "the same thing happens when they talk about political solutions. Some speak about the civilian-military covergence; others speak about a "staggered process;" some say that we must begin with the municipalities; others say yes, with the municipalities, but with the small not the big municipalities."

After stressing the role his party has played since 1962, he indicated that when the current government assumed power, "the civilians were united" and that "when the time comes, the parties will be united, demanding a solution."

Asked to give his opinion about the political document which is under preparation by the armed forces, the UCR leader stated that "there is no proposal." He added: "We know about a proposal presented by the air force, which certainly needs revision, doesn't it? If that is the proposal, it would really be better for the well-intentioned people of the country to start leaving. I do not think it will be adopted."

He added that "some navy and army proposals were announced but that no details had been given. But the commanders had said that they were initial studies which should be reconciled. They then said this had not been achieved, that only now they are being made compatible."

Balbin Speech Prohibited

PY071556 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1243 GMT 6 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 6 Aug (NA)--Military personnel prevented the delivery of speeches during a luncheon held here as part of a ceremony in memory of Fernando Sola, former labor minister, which was attended by Ricardo Balbin, president of the Radical Civic Union (UCR); Arturo Illia, former president; and other party officials.

An officer who identified himself as a member of the army intelligence service told Balbin about the prohibition and was obeyed without objections by the political leader. When a local reporter asked Balbin if this attitude "did not disappoint the people attending the luncheon," the political leader said that "I believe that it did not disappoint them. What I am doing is preventing 500 UCR members from being arrested and the country from losing prestige."

The luncheon took place yesterday after a ceremony honoring Sola held at the local cemetery, during which Balbin and four other people were able to deliver speeches.

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